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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1 1. (Currently Amended) A side impact air bag curtain apparatus comprising:
2 an inflatable air bag adapted to be installed within a vehicle in a stowed condition
3 proximate a roof rail of a vehicle and when inflated expands from the stowed condition
4 to a deployed condition generally in front of an adjacent side of the vehicle;
5 the air bag including at least one movable air bag anchor at an end of the air bag;
6 and
7 a force-directing member or guide fixedly mounted at a determinable orientation
8 within the vehicle and adapted to slidably receive and support the moving anchor,
9 wherein upon inflation of the air bag, the air bag moves to the deployed condition
10 causing the movable anchor to slide down the force-directing member, the force-
11 directing member including self locating means, active so that upon constriction in size
12 of the air bag as the inflation of the air bag inflates, for causing the movable anchor to is
13 self locate in or near a center of the force-directing member and for resisting any
14 tendency of the curtain to move or be moved upwardly.

1 2. (Currently Amended) ~~The system as defined in Claim 1~~ A side impact air bag
2 curtain apparatus comprising:
3 an inflatable air bag adapted to be installed within a vehicle in a stowed condition
4 proximate a roof rail of a vehicle and when inflated expands from the stowed condition
5 to a deployed condition generally in front of an adjacent side of the vehicle;
6 the air bag including at least one movable air bag anchor at an end of the air bag;
7 and
8 a force-directing member or guide fixedly mounted at a determinable orientation
9 within the vehicle and adapted to slidably receive and support the moving anchor,
10 wherein upon inflation of the air bag, the air bag moves to the deployed condition

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11 causing the movable anchor to slide down the force-directing member so that upon
12 inflation of the air bag the movable anchor is self located in or near a center of the force-
13 directing member resisting any tendency of the curtain to move or be moved upwardly;
14 wherein the force-directing member includes a bent element ~~red~~-with the element
15 ~~red~~-mounted such that an apex of the element ~~red~~-tends to cause the movable air bag
16 anchor to self-center.

1 3. (Withdrawn) The system as defined in Claim 2 wherein the force-directing
2 member includes a positive locking portion.

1 4. (Withdrawn) The system as defined in Claim 1 wherein the force-directing
2 member includes an apex directed away from the air bag.

1 5. (Withdrawn) The system as defined in Claim 1 wherein the force-directing
2 member includes a shaped channel in an adjacent vehicle pillar.

1 6. (Previously presented) A side impact air bag curtain apparatus comprising:
2 an inflatable air bag adapted to be installed within a vehicle in a stowed condition
3 proximate a roof rail of a vehicle and when inflated expands from the stowed condition
4 to a deployed condition generally in front of an adjacent side of the vehicle;
5 the air bag including at least one movable air bag anchor at an end of the air bag;
6 and
7 a force-directing member or guide fixedly mounted to the vehicle adjacent one
8 side of the deployed air bag, and adapted to slidably receive and support the moving
9 anchor, comprising an arcuate bar configured with an apex facing the one side of the
10 deployed air bag wherein upon inflation of the air bag, the air bag moves to the
11 deployed condition causing the movable anchor to slide down the bar so that upon
12 inflation of the air bag the movable anchor is self located within the apex of the bar.

1 7. (Previously presented) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the bar includes
2 ends which respectively extend angularly away from the apex.

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1 8. (Previously presented) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the bar includes a
2 first portion mounted vertically in the vehicle and a second portion which extends
3 angularly therefrom.

1 9. (Previously presented) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the bar includes a
2 first portion mounted horizontally in the vehicle and a second portion which extends
3 angularly therefrom and away from the one side of the air bag.

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1 10. (Previously presented) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the bar includes a
2 first portion and a second portion which extend outwardly from the apex and wherein
3 the first and second portions are each skew mounted relative to the vehicle.

1 11. (Currently amended) A side impact air bag curtain apparatus comprising:
2 an inflatable air bag adapted to be installed within a vehicle in a stowed condition
3 proximate a roof rail of a vehicle, the air bag having a determinable side-to-side width
4 when uninflated and when inflated expands from the stowed condition to a deployed
5 condition generally in front of an adjacent side of the vehicle, additionally when inflated
6 the width of the air bag is reduced in dimension;

7 the air bag including at least one movable air bag anchor at an end of the air bag;
8 and

9 a guide fixedly mounted to the vehicle, the guide defining an inflection point, the
10 guide adapted to slidably receive and support the ~~moving~~ movable anchor, wherein
11 upon inflation of the air bag, the air bag moves to its deployed condition causing the
12 movable anchor to slide down the guide so that upon inflation of the air bag the movable
13 anchor is self located in or near the inflection point of the guide thereby resisting any
14 tendency of the curtain to move or be moved while the curtain is inflated.

1 12. (New) The system as defined in Claim 2 wherein the element is a rod.